

Throat Slashing Key to Hall Crime

(Continued from Page 3)

Jugular vein and sinews of the neck. The cuts were made in two strokes, downward from either ear, meeting at a point below the "Adam's apple."

Only a peculiar kind of knife could have made such slashes—and experiments with a score of different types of knife, razor and sword blades definitely show that a short, sharp, wide-backed blade alone could have made such slashes.

Many Knives About

There are lots of knives in New Brunswick. The Hungarian quarter has a large quota. The farmers, even Jane Gibson, have knives. But none of them were of the type used by the murderers.

There were kitchen knives in the Hall home; Henry Stevens was

using a sharp fishknife the very night of the murder—but forty-five miles away at Lavallette, N. J.; "Willie" Stevens had a knife—he whittled sticks every now and then for the local children. There were undoubtedly knives in the Gorsline home, the Clarke home, but were they the knives used to slash the singer's throat?

One night I sat in the Mills kitchen smoking and talking to Jimmie Mills. He talked of the days when he was a ball player, showing me broken fingers in testimony of his ability as a catcher. I thought the local New Brunswick sandlots were the scene of his ball playing. He corrected me. He had played ball as a younger man when he worked in a shoe factory near East New York.

We talked about shoes. He told me that in addition to doing odd carpentering jobs, he had occasionally put a patch on Danny's shoes, or mended a break in Charlotte's slippers.

In fact, said Jimmie, he had

only mended Danny's shoes about a week or so before the murder. He also had had in his possession at that time one or more shoemaker's knives. Any one who has watched a cobbler cutting a sheet of tough leather and seen the ease with which the blade goes through, readily knows how sharp they are. They also have short blades, the back of which is wider than the edge to a considerable degree.

The police, as far as is known, never tried to locate these missing shoe knives which were in the Mills home.

Where Is Knife?

I have one question for the Special Prosecutor to study:

Has he tried to find out where the knife or knives went to from the Mills home, and who took them?

Has he examined the highly reliable person, a man, who told the authorities, and told me: "I passed Dr. Hall and Mrs. Mills not 500

feet from the entrance to De Russey Lane on the night of the murder. The hour I can fix closely to 9 o'clock by certain things I had to do that night.

"I will not tell you what I saw that attracted my attention to the couple, but I was greatly startled. I was tempted to turn and go back where I had seen them, but I have been thankful ever since that I did not do so."

May Be Eye-Witness

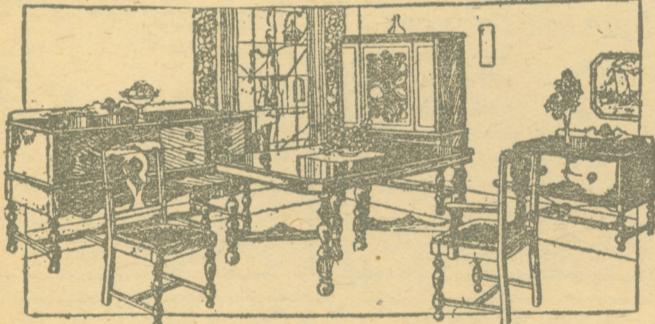
What was it this man saw? Did he see the murderers lying in wait for the victims, or stealthily creep-

ing across the field toward the spot where the murder is believed to have been committed? Was this man an actual eye-witness to the crime?

How much does Charlotte Mills, young daughter of the slain love-hungry choir singer, know of her mother's tragedy? What sort of a girl is she? How much did she learn of her mother's ill-starred passion for the murdered rector? How much did she guess? In his next article Mr. O'Connell will give his impressions of this strange waif touched by tragedy at the threshold of womanhood.

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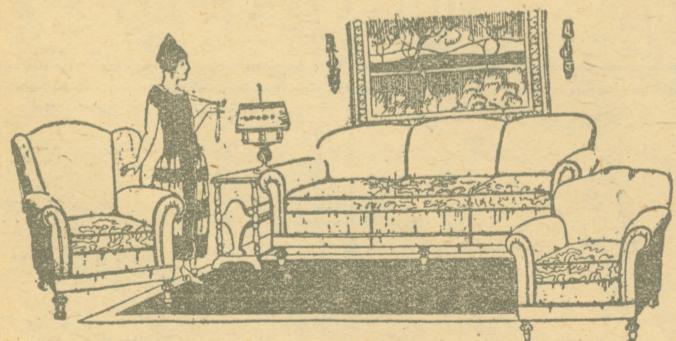
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